



Benton County Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 37 No. 10

December 2019

<http://www.begs-oregon.org>

LOCATED IN *Philomath, Oregon*
FOUNDED IN 1971 IN CORVALLIS, OREGON

Note from the President...

I hope everyone had a great and safe Thanksgiving. The holiday season has arrived.

May you all enjoy and have a blessed time with family and friends.

I hope to see you for our annual Silent Auction on Saturday Dec. 14th.

George Davidson

Note from a Member...

The *National Genealogical Society* annual conference will be held May 2020 in Salt Lake City. There are around 180 different presentations given by experts during the four-day conference. It is truly an experience of a lifetime.

This is a great opportunity to use the Family History Library in Salt Lake City by scheduling a few days before or after the conference. There is no charge for using the Library. Volunteers and paid staff are there to assist users.

(More info on page 5)

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How to stay in touch

The Benton County Genealogical Society

meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month, September through June. The business meeting begins at 10 a.m. at the Benton County Historical Society, 1101 Main St., Philomath. ADA parking and access are available at the rear of the building. The program begins at 10:30 or 11:00 a.m., as announced. Refreshments follow at the Museum Annex.

Guests are always welcome!

Coming Events

December 10—1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Writers' Group

Benton County Genealogical Society
Library in the Museum Annex

December 14 —10:00 a.m.

BCGS Silent Auction w/potluck following

Benton County Historical Society
1101 Main St, Philomath

Tuesdays & Saturdays —1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Genealogy Library open

Benton County Museum Annex

HELP WANTED:

Volunteers to provide refreshments for meetings January–June. Sign-up sheet will be circulated at the December meeting.



Benton County Genealogical Society Meeting

December 14th – Silent Auction

In the Benton County Historical Society Museum

Last December’s Silent Auction was such a huge success we are doing it again!

Each item—basket, box or container— will have a bid sheet next to it. (A bid sheet for item(s) you are bringing is included as an additional attachment with this newsletter. You may choose to fill it/them out at home. We will have some at the meeting as well). People will circulate and write their names on the bid sheets for any items they want. Each bid sheet will indicate a starting bid, as well as a bid increment. A home-baked pie might have a minimum \$5 amount to start the bidding. If the increment amount is \$1, the next person who wants that pie would write at least \$6 on the bid sheet. You may want to go back to an item you really want several times to check the last bid. When time is called, the person with the last and highest bid will win the item.

Larger items work well for Silent Auctions. If you have several small items to bring, you might put them together in a basket or box to sell as a single item. Select items for yourself or as gifts for someone else.

Some ideas:

- *Baked good: pies, cakes, cookies, jams, honey, jelly, syrup (Food always sells quickly)
- *Basket of kitchen items: cooking tools, cookbook, table accessories
- *Baskets or boxes of: books, assorted treats, wines & cheeses, linens, hand made craft items
- *Baskets for children: games, movies, toys
- *Gift certificates: restaurants, local merchants, cleaning services
- *Tickets: theater, sports, museums, concerts
- *Lessons: genealogy research, music, golf, bridge



Schedule for Saturday December 14

- 10:00 - 10:30 – display auction items on tables, place a bid sheet next to each of your items
- 10:30 - 10:45 – a short business meeting
- 10:45 - 11:30 – bidding begins, socializing
- 11:30 - noon – collect any bid sheets you ‘won’, take them to the cashier to pay, collect your items

Then – head to the always delicious potluck at the Annex. Yummm!

Bring a favorite food to share for the potluck. It may be left in the Annex before the auction

Upcoming Programs

Programs begin at 10:30 or 11 a.m. as announced, following the 10 a.m. Business Meeting

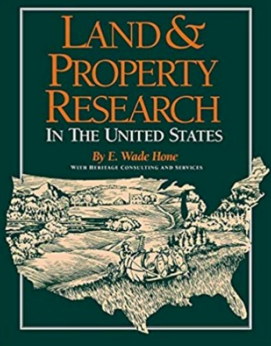
January 11—Beth Lambright in costume
sharing about the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower
and her Mayflower ancestry

February 8—James Morales
Courthouse records

March 14—Tom O’Brien
Family Search - Finding Digital Records

April 11
BCGS Genealogy Software Fair

BCGS Library News



Thanks to Society member Deloras M., our library has a new book for those who want to better understand land records in the United States. The book covers the different types of State and Federal lands, Native American Land Records, as well as pre-U.S. Possessions. There are copious repository lists, further reference suggestions, and good explanations of specialized words such as metes and bounds.

The author, E. Wade Hone, has included lots of examples of land records, boundary maps for each state, and tracts and township plat maps. Hone is a professional genealogist who specializes in land and property issues.

The book will be available at our December meeting. Happy searching!

The Society has also received two books from the family of Damaris Flagg Peck Reynolds, a long time member. She was an important and well-loved member of the Society who left a number of her research materials to the BCGS library. Even though I never had the fortune to know her, I hear her name mentioned often with admiration for the person she was. The books are *Robert and Mary Reynolds of Boston and the Hyatt Family of Princeton, N.J.* and *The Reynolds Family: Boston, 1630*. You'll find them in the REY section of Family History.

Sue Van Laere, Librarian



Writers' Group

It's never too late to start organizing all the interesting facts you've discovered into something others would like to read or hear or look at. There are many ways to bring your ancestors' stories and your own story to life. If you haven't had a chance to come to one of the meetings, come on by. You'll get hooked! The next meeting will be **December 10th instead of the 17th**, 1:00-3:00 in the Museum Annex (same little house where our library is.) Hope to see you!

Sue Van Laere

Resources for WPA Records in Oregon Available in our BCGS Library

- 1575 Vol. I. OR-Benton Phinney WPA Interviews of Benton County Pioneers and Their Descendants 1575—Vol. II 1577—Vol. III
- 1578 OR-Benton BCGS WPA Interviews of Benton County Pioneers & Their Descendants; INDEX Author Mark Phinney
- 1885 OR-Benton Aukerman, D Comp/Ed WPA Bible Records & Cemetery Records WPA Historical Records Survey, Benton County, Oregon. Author Mark Phinney
- 1886 OR-Benton Aukerman, D Comp/Ed WPA Interviews, early settlers. WPA Hist Records Survey, Benton County Author Mark Phinney
- 2758 OR-Polk Marriages 1860-1886, Cemeteries, WPA Interviews Irene Harding Collection
- 2779 OR-Washington WPA Interviews Index, "The Hillsboro Argus" November 1925-August 1927 Irene Harding Collection
- 765 US Heisey WPA Sources for Genealogists
- 1623 US Hefner WPA Historical Records Survey; A Guide to Unpublished Inventories, Indexes, & Transcripts
- 893 OR-Benton WPA Benton County, Inventory of the County Archives of OR. No. 2

November Program Review

Learning about the Siletz with Robert Kentta

On Saturday, November 9, Robert Kentta joined us for a most engaging and informative program. 31 BCGS members attended and we had 25 guests! Robert is the Cultural Resources Director of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. He gave a relaxed and informal presentation about the history of Indian reservations in western Oregon, shared his own experiences and described some beautiful traditional items which he had on display.

Robert began by talking about his own family background. His mother was Siletz and his father was Finnish. Because some of his Finnish uncles also married tribal women, many of his cousins also had tribal origins. His great-great grandmother was Shasta, and some of his family Athabascan and some Salish.

He described in some detail the history of the many western Oregon tribes and their relationship with the U.S. Government. The confederation is made up of individual bands and tribes, whose ancestral lands stretched from the Columbia River on the north to the California/Oregon border on the south. The Cascade Mountains were the eastern boundary and the Pacific Ocean was the western. Within this area the tribes had specific territories. There were five major languages plus individual dialects, some of which are now lost. The present Siletz Confederation has ten languages spoken by its people, making it the most diverse on a single reservation in the United States.

A timeline of significant events for the Siletz includes

- 1850** – Passage of the Donation Land Claim Act by the U.S. government which opened up settlement to western land.
- 1855** – On November 9, President Pierce set aside 1.1 million acres of land for the seven treaties made with the Willamette, Umpqua and Rogue Valley tribes. Later these peoples were forced to cede 19 million acres back to the federal government and relocate to the Siletz Coast Reservation. The U.S. Congress never ratified the treaty of 1855, but the Indian people lived in accordance with the treaty.
- 1875** – Many people had come to settle in Oregon and 900,000 acres were taken from the Siletz Reservation land without compensation or acknowledgement of Native American resource rights.
- 1887** – The Allotment Act was passed whereby Native American tribal holdings were transferred to individual heads of families in allotments. This forced the traditional tribal system of land tenure into a government imposed system of private property. It also opened up the remaining Native lands to appropriation by settlers further reducing the Siletz sovereign jurisdiction and resources.
- 1954** – Congress passed the Western Oregon Termination Act which disbanded reservation status and severed tribal relations.
- 1956** – The U.S. government took the last areas of scattered land and encouraged assimilation rather than tribal identities.
- 1977** – On November 18, having worked for many years to regain tribal and reservation status, the Siletz Tribes were the second native nation to be federally recognized by an act of Congress.
- 1980** – The Siletz Reservation Act re-established small parcels of timberland.
- 2016** – Congress passed an act recognizing property within the original reservation's boundary as 'on reservation property' in the Fee to Trust process.



(Continued on page 5)

(November program review continued)

Since being re-established as a recognized tribe and reservation, the Siletz have formed a nine member governing tribal council. Economic growth, social services, stable housing and medical care have been the focus for the needs of its members. The Council manages all of its own programs. Land holdings have increased to 15,000 acres. Education and preservation of art, languages and culture are now growing. There are programs to assist children from one through high school. The Siletz Valley Early College Academy helps those who want to pursue college degrees.

Economic stability has been helped with the opening of Chinook Winds Casino and Convention Center, and addition of the hotel and golf course. Along with other business ventures, it has made them the largest employer in Lincoln County. This is all managed by the Siletz Tribal Business Corporation. In 2017 the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contributions Fund donated \$13 million to various charities and non-profit organizations.

The history of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz is a story of subjugation, betrayal and resolve, which has led ultimately to self-governance and impressive success. This is a history every tribal member should be proud of sharing and is one which prompts the rest of us to learn more about the complex history of indigenous peoples in our region.



Thanks to Liza Wilson and Lois Courtney for this program review

(Info on National Genealogical Society Conference continued from page 1)

This website links to the list of presentations:

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/ngs-2020-family-history-conference-program-available/>

To see the presentation titles select **To Conference Home** at top left of screen. Then look under **Program** to see the titles of presentations. Further detail on presentations is sent closer to conference time.

Hotels fill up fast, in fact, some are already full at the conference price. A reasonable hotel where I am booked is the Carlton Hotel - \$99/night. Others are much more. I'm not sure if it is full. 801 355-3418. There is a grocery store around the corner so no need to spend money on eating out!

Mary Dean Snelling

A beggar had a brother. The brother went to sea and was drowned.
But the man who was drowned had no brother.
What was the relationship of the beggar to the one drowned?

BCGS Officers for 2020

It's time to elect BCGS officers for the coming year.

Mark the ballot and return it to the December 14 meeting if you have not already voted. Write-ins are welcome.

Ballot

President:
(write in)

George Davidson

Vice Pres.
(write in)

Kathryn Moss

Secretary
(write in)

Debbi White

Treasurer
(write in)

Lois Courtney

Enjoy the Benefits of 2020 Membership
Benton County Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1646 Philomath, OR 97370

Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership dues are \$20.00 per year (individual or family)

_____ New _____ Renewal

The newsletter can be sent by E-mail or US mail (for an additional fee). Please indicate your preference.

_____ E-mail _____ US mail* * Add \$10.00 to cover printing and mailing costs

Enclosed is: \$_____ for membership dues \$_____ donation to the Society

For family memberships please list all names: _____

Benton County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1646, Philomath, OR 97370

Officers 2019:

President: *George Davidson*, 928-205-2121
gid1943@gmail.com

Vice President: *Kathryn Moss*
mosskathryn@gmail.com

Secretary: *Debbi White*
genodebbi@gmail.com

Treasurer: *Lois Courtney*
loiscourtney@cmug.com

Appointed Positions

Membership: *Connie Patterson*
connie.eckart.patterson@gmail.com

Librarian: *Sue VanLaere*
vanlaere@proaxis.com

Programs: *Linda Olsen*
thekeeper@ronsarchive.com

Newsletter: *Ann Bateman*
tabateman@peak.org

Audit: *Connie Patterson*

Refreshments: *Peggy Gee*

Host: *Kathryn Moss*

Research: *Lois Courtney*

Book Sales: *Maridee Symons*

Website: *George Davidson*

Facebook: *Sue Van Laere*

Publicity: *Lois Courtney*

Library Volunteers: *Lois & Sue*

Photographer: *Linda Olsen*

Do you have something you would like to see included in the newsletter?

Next Newsletter

deadline

December 28

Notice: Benton County Genealogical Society provides links to websites as a service to subscribers. Linked web sites are not controlled by Benton County Genealogical Society and the Society is not responsible for the information, advertising, products, resources or other material of any linked site. The inclusion of any link does not imply endorsement by Benton County Genealogical Society. In addition, please be aware that your use of any linked site is subject to the terms and conditions applicable to that site. Direct any questions regarding linked sites to the webmaster of that site.

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LINKS

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<https://legacyfamilytree.com/>